

## INSIDE THIS WEEK

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**NEWS BRIEFS**  
UNCF head speaks out on racial preferences

NEWARK—William Gray, president of the United Negro College Fund, spoke out against initiatives like California's Proposition 209, which prohibits state and local governments from giving preferential treatment to women and minorities. "People talk about preferences. We have preferences in our society," Gray said at a recent presentation at the University of Medicine and Dentistry. "If your daddy is a Wall Street stockbroker who has given millions of dollars to the institution, just watch how quickly you get into Princeton even if your SAT scores are below the norm."

**Larry Doby is fifth Newark Eagle to enter baseball Hall of Fame**

TAMPA—Fifty-one years after he integrated baseball's American League, better Larry Doby will be inducted into the Hall of Fame. Doby, who played for teams in Cleveland, Chicago and Detroit, will be the fifth Hall of Famer to have been a member of the Newark Eagles in the Negro League. "You look back 51 years ago and you never thought this type of situation would come about," Doby said.

**Woodruff among ten Inducted into New Jersey's "Women's Hall of Fame."**

NEWARK—The Commission on the Status of Women opened New Jersey's "Women's Hall of Fame," inducting 10 women. Among the 10 inductees are New Jersey State Senator Wynona Lipman, and the late Constance "Cennie" Woodruff, labor leader, political activist and respected journalist and former City News columnist.

**Murder of Ennis Cosby goes to trial next month**

LOS ANGELES—A tentative date of April 15 has been set for the Ennis Cosby murder trial. The trial of Ennis Cosby and his wife Camille, along with their family, do not intend to comment about the case of Mikal Markshave, a Nigerian immigrant, who is accused of killing the late Ennis Cosby in January 1997.

**Former Urban League head affirms friendship with President Clinton**

WASHINGTON—Vernon Jordan, Washington lawyer and former head of the National Urban League, spent a full day answering questions regarding the relationship between President Clinton and Monica Lewinsky, and his efforts to find her a job. After his session with investigators, Jordan said, "Let me reassure you that ours is an enduring friendship...based on mutual respect, trust and admiration."

**Mume applauds Gingrich for supporting EEOC budget increase**

BALTIMORE—NAACP President Kweisi Mfume praised House Speaker Newt Gingrich for supporting a boost in budget for the beleaguered Equal Employment Opportunity Commission (EEOC). Gingrich recently urged a house subcommittee to give "serious consideration" to an administration proposal to increase the budget for funding the EEOC. "The Speaker has made support for the EEOC more bipartisan by his support for additional funding," Mfume said. "Increasing the EEOC's budget is a proposition that is long overdue, given the substantial backlog of discrimination complaints."

# America's racial and economic divide widens, says Kerner report

By Deb Richmann  
Associated Press Writer

WASHINGTON (AP)—Thirty years ago, at the height of America's civil rights movement, a report concluded that the nation was being divided into two societies: "one black, one white—separate and unequal." On the anniversary of that Kerner Commission report, a private urban-policy group says that's exactly what has happened.

Released this weekend, the report called "The Millennium Breach" says the economic and racial divide in the United States not only has materialized, it's getting wider.

"White leaders and pundits talk of full employment, inner city unemployment is at crisis levels," said the Milton S. Eisenhower Foundation. "The rich are getting richer, the poor are getting poorer, and minorities are suffering disproportionately."

The report was issued to coincide with the recent anniversary of the National Advisory Commission on Civil Disorders' release of the Kerner Commission report, named after its chairman, then-Illinois Gov. Otto Kerner.

"People need to become aware that things are getting worse again," said the report's co-author, Fred Harris, a former Democratic senator from Oklahoma and member of the Kerner Commission. "They need to see that it doesn't self-interest in this—that it doesn't make sense to have these underutilized regions in the country and these underutilized people whose lives are being wasted."

Not all black leaders were impressed with the findings. Robert S. Woodson Sr., a black conservative who heads the National Center for Neighborhood Enterprise, said Friday the report rebukes earlier Kerner Commission updates and offers recommendations too general to be useful.

He accused the authors of being "stuck in the '60s" and seeing the world only through a "prism of race."

The report says an estimated \$56 billion would be needed to carry out its recommendations: Expand funding for successful programs like Head Start, reduce investment for ineffective programs and cut corporate welfare and military spending.

Talks show that typical Americans want to move for the truly disadvantaged and the inner city but think that the major obstacle to doing more is "lack of knowledge," the report said.

The report scrolls at supply-side

economic—the idea that tax breaks for the rich and corporations will stimulate investments and benefits that will trickle down to the middle class and the poor. The report denounces enterprise zones, the federal job training program for out-of-school youth and prison construction. It also says volunteer work—something the administration promoted at a 1997 summit in Philadelphia—can't be expected to single-handedly rebuild poor neighborhoods and individuals.

Woodson disagrees with the report's premise that the United States has had the most rapid growth in wage inequality in the Western world, with racial minorities suffering disproportionately.

"Racism and discrimination still exist. But they aren't the biggest problems facing blacks in America today," Woodson said. "The real issue is the

growing economic rift within the black community.

"If we keep hanging the drum of racism, we will never find a way to close this economic rift. After all, if racism were the culprit, why haven't all blacks been affected in the same way?"

**Reader's Digest says races now closer, despite media's negative spin**

PLEASANTVILLE, N.J.—Driven by media misinformation, Americans often exaggerate the bad news on race—while neglecting a half-century of dramatic advances. The March 1998 issue of *Reader's Digest* magazine tackles some serious national misconceptions by spotlighting the "Good News About Black Progress."

From economic reporting to the O.J. Simpson trial, division and racism are constant media themes. But while racial hatred and hostility have far from vanished, barriers continue to fall in employment, housing, social and sexual relations, report Abigail and Stephen Thernstrom. Their exclusive article for *Reader's Digest* underscores three major trends.

A black middle class has arrived. More than 50 percent of employed African-Americans now hold white-collar positions, up from only five percent in 1960. Back then, only one black family in 100 enjoyed a middle-class income; by 1995 it was 49 in 100. More than 40 percent of black households now own their own homes, a tremendous change, the Thernstroms point out.

Blacks are moving to the suburbs. While whites continue to leave the inner cities, so do blacks. The number of black suburbs has almost tripled in a generation, to 10,610. By 1990 in Atlanta, for example, 64 percent of African-Americans called the suburbs home.

Bignory has declined. A national survey in the 1940s asked whether "Negroes should have as good a chance as white people to get any kind of job." Would any such question even be asked today? And would any but a small lunatic fringe respond, as a majority of whites did back then, that they should have the first chance "at any kind of job?"

What about interracial sex, the last taboo? By 1994, 65 percent of whites approved of black-white dating, up from just 10 percent in 1963.

Just four percent of whites approved of interracial marriage in 1958. By 1994, that figure was up to 45 percent.

And in 1963, less than one in 100 African-Americans married across racial lines. By 1993, 12 percent were.

Serious inequalities do remain, they acknowledge. But black Americans can rise to the top. The reports cite Kenneth Chennault, president and chief operating officer at global financial giant American Express, and Ann Fudge, head of manufacturing, promotion and sales at Kraft Foods' \$2.7 billion Petal Cereals and Maxwell House Coffee divisions.

The report also refers to Colin Powell as he recalled driving with his wife through the town of Woodbridge, Va., "and not finding even a gas-station bathroom that we were allowed to use." That was 1962. In 1996, polls suggest General Powell could have been elected president.

**AT&T wages war on slamming**

NEW YORK—Mike Armstrong, AT&T CEO, recently outlined AT&T's new plan of attack to hold consumers accountable having their long-distance phone company switched without their knowledge or consent. Slamming, it is more generally known, is the FCC's number one complaint from consumers.

Armstrong highlighted several recommendations AT&T is making to the FCC as it deals with the problem. The company will be making to stop slamming.

To ensure that its own house is in order, AT&T will take the following actions:

1. AT&T will voluntarily and unilaterally suspend the use of outside sales agents at local community events.

2. AT&T has established a slamming resolution center to provide dedicated service representatives 24-hours a day, seven days a week to resolve any consumer slamming complaints involving AT&T.

AT&T will charge companies that receive our network facilities for the cost of handling each valid customer slamming complaint they cause.

## African king comes to America

By Avery Grant

NEPTUNE—A real African king, draped in the traditional royal attire of Ghanaian kente cloth, and wearing the solid gold ornaments and jewelry of his position, was the center of a large welcoming audience at the Jersey Shore Medical Center, Neptune.

Nana Agyei-Bi Boampong, King of the Village of Apatrapa, Ghana, West Africa, is on a six-week tour of the United States, and his visit to Neptune was sponsored by the Meridian Health System, the medical center's parent company and facilitated by the local chapter of National Association of Negro Business & Professional Women's Club, Inc. (NANBPWC).

Jean Marshall, Meridian's vice president of Government and Community Relations and a NANBPWC member, visited Ghana this summer and met the king and wanted him to visit to share Africa's history. Marshall, Mary Singletary, and Beryl Dorsett visited Ghana to plan for a health clinic. Dorsett, a professor at Commonwealth University, is also one of three Queen Mothers of the king's village. She travels to Ghana four times a year, as she is the village's Queen Mother for Economic Development.

The Village of Apatrapa is located in the Ashanti region of Ghana, and has about 10,000 residents. Dorsett said, "At age of 33, King Boampong was the youngest king ever appointed by the village."

Dorsett said he was selected because he was an articulate, good student and athlete, loves children and was respected by his elders. He lives in a 30-room mansion in the village with 100 family members who live in mud thatched huts and great houses. Officially, he resolves disputes, since there is no court; he handles land transactions, he performs traditional marriages; and he introduces all new born babies to the village.

"He was instrumental in getting an access road built to the village and a junior-high school," Dorsett said. "It cost \$30 a year to educate a child. There are 250 students in the school that was named Dorsett Memorial School."

The king in his remarks graciously thanked the large gathering for such a warm welcome and generous hospitality. He is particularly appreciative about the medical and other assistance his village has received. He personally greeted everyone in the traditional right hand of fellowship.

Mary Singletary, a past NANBPWC national president, mentioned another NANBPWC project where the Ghana human and civil rights document had been translated into 15 Ghanaian dialects, and placed in schools, colleges and communities. There are 40 dialects in Ghana.

A tree was planted at the medical center in honor of the king's visit.



African King - Nana Agyei-Bi Boampong, King of the Village of Apatrapa, Ghana, shakes hands with John Marshall after receiving a bouquet of flowers from him. Looking on are from right, Beryl Dorsett, a Queen Mother of the Village of Apatrapa, and Jean Marshall, vice president for Government and Community Relations, Meridian Health System; and Laila Marshall.

**Philip Morris chief 'ashamed' by internal documents on youth market**

By Steve Karnowski  
Associated Press Writer

ST. PAUL, Minn. (AP)—The chairman of the nation's largest tobacco company was humiliated in mid-July when he was shocked and ashamed by documents indicating teens were an important target of the industry.

Philip Morris Inc. chairman and CEO, Geoffrey Bible, chairman and chief executive of Philip Morris Cos. Inc., said he was embarrassed at the contents of the documents, which he said were introduced in Minnesota's trial of the industry.

Michael Ciresi, lead attorney for the plaintiffs, confronted Bible with a 1981 Philip Morris memo about the effect of a cigarette tax increase on the teen-age market.

"I think it is more than coincidental that the sharpest declines in smoking prevalence among teen-age males occurred in 1979 and 1980, the years in which the use of gasoline rose most sharply," researcher Myron Johnston wrote. "When it comes to a choice between smoking cigarettes or cruising around in his car, the average teen-age male will probably choose the latter."

"I don't think they should have been commenting on matters like that," Bible said. "I'm embarrassed by it."

\$1.77 billion they say they've spent treating smoking-related illness.

Ciresi showed Bible a 1975 memo about slower growth of the Marlboro brand. The memo, from researcher Myron Johnston, said that circulated among senior executives, said one reason was slower growth in the number of 15- to 19-year-olds.

Johnston said he had data showing Marlboro's market penetration was particularly high among 15- to 17-year-olds. He went on to say the teen years were important because they were the years in which most people started to smoke, made their initial brand selections and were most susceptible to peer pressure.

"I am ashamed, I am embarrassed about it, yes," Bible said. "Ciresi pointed out that when Bible gave a deposition for the case, he was asked whether Philip Morris ever gathered data on the underage segment of the market and replied, 'I would be horrified if they did.'"

He then showed Bible a document titled "A Study of Smoking Habits Among Young Smokers" prepared for Philip Morris in 1974 by the Roper Organization. Bible expressed dismay when Ciresi pointed out that Roper's survey form included separate age categories for respondents aged 17, 16, 15, as well as "14 or younger."

"It certainly wouldn't happen today," Bible said.

## Rev. Sharpton says he won't run for Congress

NEW YORK (AP)—Saying he wants to focus his energy on civil rights issues instead of his political career, the Rev. Al Sharpton has announced that he will not run for Congress this year.

"It is more important to me to appear to be part of a great movement of activists and advocates than just another good politician," he said at a breakfast at his National Action Network headquarters in Harlem on Thursday.

With Roman Catholic Cardinal John O'Connor and other city religious and labor leaders at his side, the activist preacher announced a New York march on April 4 in memory of the 30th anniversary of the assassination of Martin Luther King.

Sharpton, who lost a close race for the Democratic mayoral nomination last year, had been considering a challenge to Rep. Edolphus Towns of Brooklyn.

Several prominent Democrats, including former Mayor David Dinkins, and Assemblyman Clarence Norman Jr., the Brooklyn Democratic leader, had reportedly encouraged Sharpton to run.

Sharpton said he would remain politically active and would campaign for other candidates.

"If anything, I'll be more politically active on a broader basis," he said.

Norman, who like many Democrats was angry over Towns' endorsement of Republican Mayor Rudolph Giuliani last year, said he would look for another candidate.

"We're not supporting Congressional Towns," he said. "Who we ultimately support remains to be seen."

Towns said Sharpton's decision not to challenge him "prevents division, and from that standpoint I'm relieved."

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## First Union buys The Money Store

UNION (AP)—First Union Corp. is buying The Money Store Inc. for \$2.1 billion in stock in a deal that will expand the huge banking company's presence in home equity, small business and student loans.

The companies said recently there is very little overlap between

their operations and no office closings are planned.

The deal is the latest in a series of purchases by First Union, whose shareholders received approval in \$16.6 billion takeover of CoreStates Financial Corp. in the biggest banking buyout to date.

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## Community Calendar

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 11

**UNION**—Preservation Commendations will be awarded at the Eleventh Annual Historic Preservation Commendations at 7:30 p.m. at Elizabethtown Gas Company. For more info, call 908-558-2550.

**EAST RUTHERFORD**—"Newark Night" will be held at the upcoming Ringling Brothers and Barnum and Bailey Circus at 7:30 p.m. at the Continental Airlines Arena. For more info, call 732-733-6454.

**ELIZABETH**—Anyone who has filed for an examination for being a Police Officer can obtain a sample test booklet of the Law Enforcement Candidate Record by sending a self-addressed envelope to the Elizabeth Police Dept., Personnel Office, One Police Plaza, Elizabeth, NJ 07201 by visiting the Personnel Office Monday through Friday between 8 a.m. and 4 p.m. For more info, call 908-558-2003.

THURSDAY, MARCH 12

**NEWARK**—ASPIRA's 21st Annual Luncheon will be held at ASPIRA, Inc. at 12 noon to 2 p.m. For more info, call 973-484-7654.

**PLAINFIELD**—The Plainfield Senior Civic Service Center, announces a bus trip to Atlantic City to the Resorts International, leaving the Center at 9 a.m. For more info, call 908-353-3508.

**EDISON**—A Blue Ribbon Panel will discuss why the Grand jury of Middlesex County has declined to indict the respective law enforcement officials responsible for the killings of five minority community members. This will be discussed at 7 p.m. at the Edison John Corbin Center. For more info, call 732-985-4800.

FRIDAY, MARCH 13

**NEWARK**—A play, "When A Dove Dreams" by Gary Garrison will be performed at Newark Symphony Hall's 2nd Floor Theatre space from March 13 through March 22nd at 8 p.m. For more info, call 973-624-1584.

SATURDAY, MARCH 14

**IRVINGTON**—The 1st Annual Youth Empowerment Day will be held from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. at Irvington High School. Workshops will be held for Adolescents, Parents & Community Leaders. For more info, call 973-375-5207.

**PLAINFIELD**—A Youth Symposium will be held at the Plainfield Health Center from 9:30 a.m. to 1 p.m. For more info, call 973-455-3533.

**DUNELLEN**—A flea market will be held from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. at The Dunellen United Methodist Church.

For more info, call 732-968-4347.

SUNDAY, MARCH 15

**NEW YORK**—College seniors and graduate students have a chance to gain hands-on work experience in the State Senate through the New York State Minority Summer Intern Program. The 10-week internship program runs from June through August. Deadline to apply is today. For more info, call 718-643-6140.

**WESTFIELD**—A special "Green Dance" will be held from 5 p.m. to 5 p.m. to celebrate St. Patrick's Day in Westfield's Town Hall. For more info, call 908-527-4900.

TUESDAY, MARCH 17

**PLAINFIELD**—The Plainfield Board of Education will conduct an Executive Session meeting at 6:30 p.m. at the Plainfield High School Conference Room to discuss matters from the Supt., Finance, Personnel, Policy and Buildings and Grounds.

**NEW YORK**—You are invited to witness an amazing assemblage of fire-ignition excitement at the all-new 128th edition of "The Greatest Show On Earth" at 7:30 p.m. at the Nassau Veterans Memorial Coliseum. For more info, call 212-689-3086.

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 18

**CRANFORD**—The Union County Teen Arts Festival, a two-day celebration of the arts will be held at Union County College. For more info, call 908-558-2550.

THURSDAY, MARCH 19

**CALDWELL**—Caldwell College hosts a Graduate Open House at 7:30 p.m. in the Academic Building. For more info, call 973-224-4424, ext. 403.

SATURDAY, MARCH 21

**BRIDGEWATER**—The 4th Annual "Best of Branchburg Fundraising Dinner" will be held at 6:30 p.m. at Soriano's Classic Elegance. For more info, call 908-526-1200, ext. 6318.

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 25

**JERSEY CITY**—Jersey City State College offers a series of one-day computer workshops designed to introduce students to computers and software applications on Saturdays. "Introduction to Windows 95" will be held today. For more info, call 201-200-3089.

THURSDAY, MARCH 26

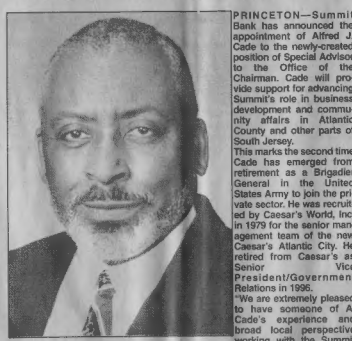
**NEW BRUNSWICK**—The NJ Arts Access Task Force will hold its second statewide conference on "Access to the Arts" at the Hyatt Hotel. For more info, call 973-593-0189.

## Transit director congratulates Freeholder



**TEANECK**—New Jersey Transit Executive Director Shirley DeLibero congratulating Bergen County Freeholder J. William Van Dyke upon the successful completion of Van Dyke's term as Chairman of the North Jersey Transportation Planning Authority.

## Summit Bank hires Alfred Cade



**organization in Atlantic County," said Chairman and Chief Executive Officer T. Joseph Semrod. "His familiarity with the business issues and community concerns in Atlantic City and the surrounding area will be invaluable as we pursue development opportunities there."**  
**Cade is chairman of the New Jersey Commission on Higher Education and chairman emeritus of the Atlantic County Conference of Christians and Jews. He is past chairman of the Greater Atlantic City Chamber of Commerce and New Jersey State Chamber of Commerce.**

## Weatherspoon goes back to school



**JERSEY CITY**—WNBA Star at JCSC, Teresa Weatherspoon, in photo at center, of the New York Liberty of the Women's National Basketball Association (WNBA) recently participated in the Jersey City State College "National Women's Sports Day" program. A starter in all of New York Liberty's 28 games and the recipient of the WNBA Defensive Player of the Year Award in 1997, Ms. Weatherspoon discussed the first season of the women's league with, from left, JCSC freshman Farrah Cabana of Jersey City; seven-year-old Kelsey Phakson of Clinton; Karen DeAngelis of Bloomfield, director of the JCSC Women's Center; and Wanda Shipman of Newark, JCSC assistant director of student support services.

## NBA/Lucent teleconference at CSH NBA



**MOUNTAINSIDE**—NBA All-Star Jayson Williams of the New Jersey Nets gives a hug to Sebril Fields of Plainfield at Children's Specialized Hospital (CSH) in Mountainide. Fields recently participated in a teleconference sponsored by Lucent Technologies at CSH during which past and present basketball greats spoke from locations in Charlotte, NC, and New York, NY, about overcoming adversity.

INSIDE THIS WEEK  
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 News Briefs

## Black United Fund is on a mission of service

# CITY NEWS—

## Defining who we are

Following in the tradition of the Black Press, *CITY NEWS* continues to strive to be the source of black issues, concerns and achievements.

Far from the stereotypes that portray black people in the general media, *CITY NEWS* stories clearly reflect a people who are law-abiding, God-fearing and who value family, education and quality living.

Now, more than ever, black people must come together across religions, organizations, fraternal orders, professions, and communities to make a firm statement about who we are, what we stand for, and what we will do to achieve our collective goals. These goals include religious freedom, equal protection under the law, civil and voting rights, quality education for all black children, quality housing, jobs, access to opportunity and economic development in black communities.

During March, Black Press Month, *CITY NEWS* launches *The Network*, a partnership to unite and inform people throughout New Jersey about the progress of New Jersey's black communities and the people who are making things happen.

For more information, call 908.754.3400 to obtain The Network guide or fax us at 908.753.1036.

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## Political Analysis

# FIELD ASSIGNMENT

*Julian Bond and the NAACP*



# What do you get when you find a way to help make neighborhoods work?

Recently, President Clinton recognized PSE&G with special mention for the first ever **Ron Brown Award for Corporate Leadership**, making the company one of only five recipients nationwide. Over the last year, PSE&G, along with more than 350 people from over 150 different organizations dedicated time, effort and money to a model urban

The organizations listed here shared PSE&G's vision. A belief that fundamental, long-lasting positive change in a community must come from within the people who live there. Through its South Ward Neighborhood Partnership model, PSE&G and its partners have proven that urban revitalization is not only worthwhile, but an integral building

## A presidential award.

revitalization program in Newark's South Ward. From creating new jobs to building affordable housing. From upgrading school computer systems to teaching kids how to use them. From building better health clinics to educating mothers on keeping their kids healthy, the South Ward Neighborhood Partnership is working successfully to revitalize an area of New Jersey with a great deal of potential.

block in the construction of a better tomorrow. And so, this year, PSE&G, together with the State of New Jersey, will launch new urban revitalization projects based on the Partnership's model in Elizabeth, Paterson, Trenton, New Brunswick, Camden and Jersey City. It's another step toward a stronger future for New Jersey, its neighborhoods and its families, and another example of the power of commitment.

10,000 Mentors  
100 Black Men of New Jersey, Inc.  
AD House  
Amelior Foundation  
American Red Cross  
Apostle House  
Applied Concepts  
Association for Children of New Jersey  
AT&T  
AT&T's Alliance of Black  
Telecommunication Workers  
Avon Avenue Elementary School  
Belmont-Ramsey Elementary School  
Bell Atlantic-New Jersey  
Berkeley College  
Black United Fund of New Jersey  
Bloomfield College  
Cathedral Healthcare System, Inc.  
Chase Manhattan Bank  
City National Bank of New Jersey  
City of Newark  
Clinton Avenue Elementary School  
Clinton Branch Library  
Clinton Hill Community & Early  
Childhood Center, Inc.  
Columbus Hospital Foundation  
Community Agency Corporation of  
New Jersey  
Community Church of God  
Congressman Donald Payne's Office  
County of Essex  
Cross Counters, Inc.  
Department of Development,  
City of Newark  
Department of Health,  
City of Newark  
Division of Community Health,  
County of Essex

Division of Youth and Family Services  
Donald Jackson Neighborhood  
Corporation  
Episcopal Community  
Development, Inc.  
Essex County Department of  
Citizen Services  
Essex County Department of Health  
Essex County Volunteer Center  
Friendly Field Neighborhood  
Centers, Inc.  
Gateway Maternal & Child  
Health Consortium  
Hawthorne Avenue Elementary School  
Hillside Auto Mall  
International Youth Organization  
Johnson-Jones Architects  
Malcolm X. Shabazz High School  
Mayor's Office of Employment &  
Training - Newark  
Metropolitan Ecumenical Ministry  
CDC  
Microsoft Corporation  
Muslim, Inc.  
National Association of Black  
Management Consultants, Inc.  
National Partnership for Social  
Enterprise, Inc.  
NBI Healthcare Foundation  
New Community Corporation  
New Jersey Department of Health &  
Senior Services  
New Jersey Department of Labor  
New Jersey Economic Development  
Authority  
New Jersey Housing & Mortgage  
Finance Agency  
New Jersey Institute of Technology

New Jersey Redevelopment Authority  
New Jersey Department of  
Community Affairs  
New Jersey Department of  
Human Services  
New Jersey Department of  
Transportation  
Newark Beth Israel Medical Center  
Newark Business Training Institute  
Newark City Council  
Newark Community Development  
Network  
Newark Economic Development  
Corporation  
Newark Enterprise Zone  
Newark Fighting Back  
Newark Fire Department  
Newark Housing Authority  
Newark Literacy Campaign  
Newark Police Department  
Newark Public Library  
Newark Public Schools  
Newark Public Schools, Office of  
Instructional Technology/School  
to Work  
Newark Transitional Supervised  
Living  
North Jersey Committee of  
Black Clergy  
North Ward Cultural Center  
Office of Neighborhood  
Empowerment, State of New Jersey  
Partnership for New Jersey  
Peddie Memorial Church  
Peshine Avenue Elementary School  
Port Authority of NY & NJ  
Prevent Child Abuse - New Jersey  
Project Babies

Prosperity - New Jersey, Inc.  
Protestant Community Centers, Inc.  
Prudential Insurance Company  
of America  
Regional Business Partnership  
Rutgers Graduate School of  
Management  
Rutgers Interfunctional Management  
Consultant Program  
Rutgers School of Law and  
Criminal Justice  
Rutgers, Small Business  
Development Center  
Senator Wynona M. Lipman's Office  
Senator Frank Lautenberg's Office  
South District Public Station  
South Ward Cultural Center  
St. Barnabas Behavioral Health  
Network  
St. Barnabas Development Foundation  
St. Barnabas Health Care System  
St. Michael's Medical Center  
Student/Partner Alliance  
Technology High School  
The Beth Health Care Foundation  
The New Jersey Medical School -  
UMDNJ  
Trinity United Methodist Church  
United Way of Essex & West Hudson  
Urban League of Essex County  
US Department of Housing and  
Urban Development  
US Economic Development Agency  
Vehicles, Inc.  
WellSpring I & II  
William H. Brown, Jr. Academy  
Young People's Institute for Learning

\* The Ron Brown Award for Corporate Leadership is sponsored and managed by The Conference Board, a nonprofit membership organization dedicated to improving the business enterprise system and embracing the contribution of business to society. Presented annually by the President of the United States to recognize extraordinary company programs that improve the well-being of employees and enhance communities where employees live and work.



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March 11-March 17, 1998

# Health Calendar

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 11

**BELLEVILLE**—Tel-Med, Clara Maass Medical Center has a free, 24-hour service and information line which contains recorded information on topics ranging from diabetes to the common cold and is available to anyone who has access to a touch-tone telephone. Simply dial 973-450-2500. A free listing of topics can be obtained by calling 973-450-2150.

THURSDAY, MARCH 12

**CALDWELL**—Caldwell College workshop series celebrates Women's History Month with Joet and Julie's History Month and Joet and Julie's History Month. Joet and Julie will be at the Alumni House, 800 Main St., at 9:30-12:00 a.m. Call 973-228-4424, ext. 387.

**NEW BRUNSWICK**—A four-week course on Stress Management for Health and Happiness will be held at 7 p.m. at Robert Wood Johnson University Hospital's Director Center for Stress Management. For more info, call 732-928-3000.

**BELLEVILLE**—Clara Maass Medical Center offers a variety of CPR certification courses. These classes are held both on the Medical Center campus as well as off-site locations. For registration or additional information, please call 973-450-2729.

**PLAINFIELD**—The Senior Citizens Center offers "Water Exercises," professionally led limbering and aerobic sessions. Tuesdays and Thursdays at the Y.M.C.A., in a heated pool from 10:30 a.m. to 11:30 a.m. with transportation from the Center at 10:15 a.m. Bring your own towel. For more info, call 973-753-3506.

SATURDAY, MARCH 14

**WESTFIELD**—A free two-day training course, "Congregation Assistance Program" will be held beginning today from 8:30 a.m. to 3 p.m. and March 21st at the National Council on Alcoholism and Drug Dependence office located at 300 North Main St. This program's goal is to assist people and families with drug and alcohol problems. For more info, call 908-223-8810.

## New program for women's midlife changes

**TEANECK**—The Women's Outpatient Center at Holy Name Hospital has recently added a "Midlife Management Program" to its existing array of services for women.

The program is targeted to women ages 35 to 65 who have questions about midlife concerns such as hormone replacement therapy (HRT) and alternatives to HRT, osteoporosis, breast health, and cardiac risk.

"The Midlife Management Programs help women become fully informed about issues in this time of their lives, and more importantly, what options they have based on their own personal risk factor identification," said Dr. Whelan, director of the Women's Outpatient Center.

The program was developed by a council of collaborating physicians and ancillary professionals who are experts in women's health. Each physician represented an area of expertise, such as osteoporosis, gynecology, breast health, cardiology, and gynecological oncology.

When a patient comes to the Women's Center for the Midlife Management Program, she is ensured of personalized attention in an atmosphere of understanding and is given all the time necessary to complete the components of the program. All diagnostic tests and necessary referrals can be done in one convenient location.

A unique aspect to the program is the focus on the "whole person" and recognizing other aspects of the patient's life and past experiences that affect her psychological well-being and ultimately her health. The program focuses on mind-body connections, such as spirituality, family and social support systems, as well as other psychological issues that affect well-being on a daily basis.

After a careful review of her history, the patient will be counseled on her health status—what are her strengths and potential risk factors. A personalized plan is then sent in place to address the risk factors and capitalize on the healthy aspects of her lifestyle. If referrals are necessary, e.g., cardiac rehabilitation services or an exercise class, they can be arranged the same day as the initial exam.

"The focus of this program is education and prevention of illness and disease," Wilson said. "But, where indicated, we have the capability to treat the problem and/or address deficiencies with our qualified medical staff."

"In ensuring universal access to health care, which is part of Holy Name's mission, we have developed a program for the care of women with chronic illness. The program's special equipment is available in the Medical Sciences Center, where we can manage midlife issues and well-women care."

For more information on the Midlife Management Program, call the Women's Outpatient Center at 201-833-7100.

By Alan Wheat  
Special to the NNPA

Over 120 million people in 73 countries now infected with elephantiasis have been given real hope that this dreaded disease may be eradicated in the next few years, this news was delivered at a recent joint news conference of SmithKline Beecham, a British-owned pharmaceutical company, and the World Health Organization (WHO).

SmithKline Beecham plans to donate enough of an antiparasitic drug to vaccinate about one-fifth of the world's population each year for the next five years. The total contribution, including drugs for distributing the drug, is expected to be \$500 million. Epidemiologists believe that if the entire at-risk population is treated for five years, the disease will die out.

In 12 years in Congress working on issues affecting Africa, no single effort made by any private company matched the importance of this single showing of corporate good citizenship.

Elephantiasis is believed to be one of six infectious diseases which are potentially eradicable. A monumental collaboration between international medical groups, government of over 73 countries and SmithKline Beecham has led scientists to agree that treatment of elephantiasis with the drug donated by SmithKline Beecham, makes this infectious disease now much closer to joining the list of "textbook" diseases.

New research, disease control efforts and private and governmental

support for distribution systems has made it possible for SmithKline Beecham to participate in this worldwide effort to eradicate this dreaded disease. Elephantiasis, a SmithKline Beecham drug used to combat intestinal parasites, is 99 percent effective when simultaneously used with other drugs to eliminate elephantiasis.

"SmithKline Beecham strives every day to improve people's health," said Jan Gessly, chief executive officer and president of SmithKline Beecham. The drug company's commitment to provide the necessary drug—free of charge—stands out among major corporate achievements. Gessly stated, "We will donate Albendazole free of charge for this program to every country that needs it until this dreadful disease is eliminated as a public health problem."

SmithKline Beecham has signed a contract with WHO which commits the company to donate sufficient quantities of Albendazole to make several billion doses. Dr. James Hill, director and senior vice president for Corporate

Affairs for SmithKline Beecham, committed the international conglomerate to do more than just donate the drug. "We will also offer technical assistance and health education. We want to make sure that this disease will be totally eliminated. Our employees in the 73 target countries will offer additional support," he said.

Now that the drug has been procured free of charge, it is incumbent upon affected countries to implement the plan for appropriate delivery of treatment, monitoring and evaluation. WHO will provide, on a country-by-country basis, the necessary technical advice and assistance to governments for developing such plans.

Alan Wheat is a former congressman from Missouri and sits on the Board of Directors of CARE, an international relief and development organization.

## New drugs can help close the black/white health gap

By Larry Lucas

I've got both good news and bad news, and I'll start with the bad news: the health gap between black Americans and the majority population is growing.

According to the Department of Health and Human Services, the death rate for African Americans from diabetes, heart disease and stroke is much higher than for white Americans. For every 100,000 people, 27 died of stroke in 1995. But for African Americans, the rate was nearly twice that—45 per 100,000 people. For some diseases, such as breast cancer, the death rates among African Americans are remaining steady, while overall death rates are falling.

Black people have to do all they can to close this gap. That means fighting for access to care, and, perhaps most important, all, taking care of themselves. Fighting right, exercising, giving up smoking, these steps can help fight almost every disease. So, of course, does getting regular check-ups.

The good news is that the nation's medicine chest grew by 49 new medicines last year, and many of these new drugs can help African Americans close the health gap. Here are some examples.

Seven new medicines were approved to treat cancer, the second leading killer of all Americans. The death rate for all types of cancer among African Americans is 172 per 100,000 people. The new drugs include two for breast cancer, which disproportionately affects African American women.

Eight medicines were added to the arsenal against heart disease and stroke.

The first and third most common causes of death among all Americans. Asian, death rates for blacks are higher than for the general population. Fear of these medicines will provide additional choices for the more than 50 million Americans who have high blood pressure—more than 25 percent of them. Three of the new medicines will help lower blood pressure. One of the new medicines will help lower blood pressure in people with diabetes. Death rates from diabetes have risen among African Americans and have grown even more among African Americans.

These new medicines are approved to treat AIDS, and one of them was specifically approved to treat children with this disease. AIDS is the leading cause of death among African Americans between 25 and 44, and African Americans account for 41 percent of new infections. That's why, to pharmaceutical researchers, we have more medicines to help us keep healthy. With these new medicines, and with lifestyle improvements, we may be able to close the health gap between African Americans and the majority population. For a copy of "New Drug Approvals in 1997," contact the FDA, 1015 15th Street NW, Washington, DC 20505.

Larry Lucas is Associate Vice President of the Pharmaceutical Research and Manufacturers of America.

## Spring into healthy skin

**NEW YORK**—During Skin Awareness Month, the focus is on the importance of paying attention to skin health. Skin examinations and skin care. The following tips will help keep skin in good condition now and in the future.

Visit a dermatologist annually for a head-to-toe skin exam. Skin examinations are recommended for people in their 20's and older. For the names of board-certified dermatologists in your area, contact the American Academy of Dermatology toll free at 888-462-DERM.

Increase the humidity levels in the home and office—Low temperatures and low humidity—caused by air conditioning or indoor heating—can strip the skin of moisture. Stock up on green plants—they are natural humidifiers. The more plants you have in a room, the more moisture in the air. Regular humidifiers are good too.

Protect skin from sun—When outdoors, a broad-spectrum sunscreen should be applied, paying special attention to areas that are often overlooked—ears, neck, feet and backs of legs. Remember, even in the winter, the sun can pack a powerful punch, (due to reflective surfaces—snow and ice). Be careful at high altitudes—every 1,000

feet above sea level means five percent more UV radiation.

Moisturizer liberally and frequently. Moisturizing doesn't stop it's important that a moisturizer do more than just prevent moisture loss. It should also help to replenish skin lipids which enhance the skin's natural ability to retain natural moisturizing factor (NMF), an essential component of your skin's moisture barrier.

Keep thermostats on or below 72 degrees—When it's hotter, the air will pull moisture from wherever it can get it—from your skin, furniture, etc. Moisturize skin daily and drink 6-8 glasses of water daily to maintain hydration levels in the body and skin.

Take short, warm showers/baths. A hot shower feels great but can be damaging to the skin. Hot water strips skin of natural oils which can leave skin dry and irritated. Limit showers/baths to 10-15 minutes after bathing to replenish moisture.

Use gentle cleansers on the face and body—This is especially important in the winter when skin tends to be drier. Remember that most cleansers can be too harsh on skin than they are. In fact, harsh deodorant soaps and excessive cleansing and scrubbing can irritate skin and strip away the skin's

## Staying connected

**PARAMUS**—A free subscription to a newsletter called "Staying Connected" is being offered to adults nearing or in their "Golden Years" who want to improve their lifestyles and get more out of life, while still planning to protect themselves against the possibility of long-term illness.

Published by Gary Melnickoff, a nationally recognized specialist in long-term care insurance, the first edition of this newsletter gives helpful advice on a wide range of topics for seniors. For instance, those planning a trip are reminded to ask for a hotel room between the second and fifth floors (which are too high for easy entrance and too low for easy exit).

The new publication has a number of regular columns, including one that keeps the reader up-to-date on legislative changes that affect long-term health care in America. There's also a column with 800 numbers that provide free information on

topics like "maintaining a healthy heart" as well as a "hearing aid hotline."

Understanding the special nutritional needs of older individuals is also an important part of "Staying Connected," as are exercise and overall physical fitness.

Meant as a two-way communication tool, "Staying Connected" encourages readers to send information to be published in future editions, also with requests for specific articles that they would like to see covered in the publication.

Melnickoff, who was recently featured in the national "Nursing Homes Long Term Management" magazine, also provides free seminars on topics for care planning. Charitable, nonprofit, civic or professional organizations can schedule a presentation by calling Melnickoff.

For further editorial information, please call Mr. Gary Melnickoff, at 201-265-1958.



These five New Jersey women are the focus of the American Heart Association's "Take Wellness to Heart" campaign. From left are: Gail Berkman, Judith Miller, Gavin; Rabbi Randi Muskat; Dawn Lauridsen; and Jean Miller. The women are American Heart Association New Jersey "myth breakers." Why myth breakers? One of the myths about cardiovascular diseases is that "heart disease is a man's disease." Each of the women is a survivor of heart disease, stroke ("brain attack"), heart attack or a heart transplant. Cardiovascular diseases, including heart attack and stroke, kill more American females than the next 16 causes of death combined. Call the American Heart Association at 1-888-MY-HEART to receive a FREE women's heart health packet. PHOTOGRAPHY by John Autio, Alan Fielder Studio, Union.

## Finally a POSITIVE magazine for urban teens

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**or call 908-754-4470.**

## Members in managed care health plans get rights

**TRENTON**—Consumer protection already included in the Bill of Rights for members of HMOs in New Jersey—will be extended to the more than one million people enrolled in other managed care programs under the Health Care Quality Act. The law, recently signed by Governor Christine Whitman, is now in effect.

In addition, penalties levied against HMOs and other managed care organizations for violations of any provisions in the statute will substantially increase from a maximum of \$1,000 per day for each infraction up to \$10,000.

One of the most important rights HMO consumers have is the right to appeal decisions to limit or deny treatment for covered services. After exhausting appeals within the HMO, a member or doctor has the right to bring her case to DHSS and an independent panel of medical experts for its recommendation. Under the new law, members of other managed care groups and traditional fee-for-service doctors also expect to take advantage of the appeals right.

Among other rights HMO consumers now enjoy and will be extended to other managed care plans are the right to expect a doctor, not an administrator, to make decisions on coverage for medical services and the right to expect a doctor to discuss all treatment options even if not covered services.

Designed to bring all managed care plans under the same standards, HCQA law holds HMOs and other managed care plans to the same standard. It is estimated that there are some one million people in non-HMO health care plans that are covered by this law. In addition, there are more than 2.3 million people who belong to HMOs.

In order to ensure that these other forms of managed care are regulated appropriately and are consistent with our HMO regulations, a task force will be appointed to review the new law and recommend regulations, which should be adopted by August. The Commissioners of the Department of Health and Senior Services and the Department of Banking and Insurance share regulatory authority over HMOs and managed care organizations.

# Artz Wednesday

March 11-March 17, 1998

CITY NEWS 8

## Billboard

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 11

**CRANFORD**—Union County College hosts a Metropolitan Museum of Art lecture in a guest lecture and slide show on the works of 17th century painter, Johannes Vermeer, from 3 to 5 p.m. in the North Lecture Hall, Science Building. For more info, call 908-709-7595.

THURSDAY, MARCH 12

**NEW YORK**—Dru Hill, Puff Daddy and The Family and Busta Rhymes will perform at Madison Square Garden at 7 p.m. For more info, call 716-522-7171.

**HUTLEY**—A free poetry reading will be held at 7 p.m. at the Nutley Public Library. For more info, call 973-667-0405.

**THIRTEEN/WNET**—Great Performances: Frank Sinatra. The Very Good Years will be shown from 8 p.m. to 10 p.m. This illuminating musical tribute captures the magic of Sinatra's classic TV special from the 1960s and 70s, and features legendary guest artists Ella Fitzgerald. For more info, call 212-560-2074.

**NEWARK**—The legendary Patti LaBelle will perform at Newark Symphony Hall. For more info, call 973-643-8092.

SATURDAY, MARCH 14

**HEMPSTEAD**—The Department of Music presents Monty Python at 8 p.m., at the Monrovia Lecture Center Theater, South Campus. For more info, call 516-463-6818.

SUNDAY, MARCH 15

**HEMPSTEAD**—The Department of Music presents The William Shakespeare Memorial Concert at 3 p.m. in the Monrovia Lecture Center Theater, South Campus. For more info, call 516-463-6818.

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 18

**CRANFORD**—Police artist Vincent Granoff will lead a workshop at the 1998 Union County Teen Arts Festival at Union County College from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. through the 19th. For more info, call 908-558-2550.

**CRANFORD**—The Union County Teen Arts Festival offers an opportunity for volunteers to get involved. For more info, call 908-558-2550.

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## 'Soul Food' wins five Image Awards



**LOS ANGELES, CA**—"Soul Food," last season's hit dramatic film about life and love in an African-American family, beat out competition in the film category at the 29th NAACP Image Awards to win statuettes for best picture, best actress, best young actor, best supporting actress and best sound track. Awards for best actor and best supporting actor, the only two film awards "Soul Food" did not win, went to "Amistad."

"Soul Food's" Vanessa Williams won the Image Award for best actress in a motion picture and the film's soundtrack was voted Best Album of the Year. "Amistad's" Djimon Hounsou was named best actor in a motion picture and Morgan Freeman received the award for best supporting actor. A total of 41 awards were presented.

Launched 35 years ago as a dinner to honor Sammy Davis, Jr. for his tireless work to obtain fair employment for African-American entertainers in Hollywood, the NAACP Image awards has grown into a nationally televised event that honors positive portrayals of African Americans in film, television and music.

### PENNY JOHNSON

by Ron Harner & William Relling Jr.

Given the breadth and depth of actress Penny Johnson's talent and experience, it's easy to be dazzled by the sheer diversity of her interests. Currently she enjoys a featured role in the new Touchstone Pictures comedy, "Krippendorf's Tribe" starring

Academy Award winner Richard Dreyfuss.

In the film, which opens nationwide on February 27, Johnson plays the role of concerned school psychologist Mrs. Sheffer, while Dreyfuss plays James Krippendorf, an anthropologist who happens to be a single dad having a difficult time raising his three kids. For the past two years, the anthropologist and his children have been living off a foundation grant intended to support his study of a previously undiscovered tribe of natives in New Guinea.

When Krippendorf receives word that the results of his "study" are now due, he isn't remotely ready. The reason? There is no tribe, and the anthropologist has spent every dime of the grant on raising his children. Krippendorf is further shocked when he is informed that the foundation requires documentation of his work in the form of 16mm movies of the tribe he has supposedly "discovered."

Johnson is probably best known for her role as Beverly on the popular, award-winning HBO situation comedy, "The Larry Sanders Show," a part the actress has played since the series' inception in 1992. For her memorable performances on this program Johnson received a Cable ACE Award nomination for Best Actress in a Comedy Series, as well as an Image Award nomination for Best Supporting Actress in a Comedy Series. As portrayed by Johnson, Beverly is the long-suffering executive assistant of the show's insecure but egomaniacal title character played by comedian Gary Shandling.

Johnson is also a familiar face to



The host for the 1998 Image Awards are Gregory Hines and Vanessa L. Williams, standing at right. With them are NAACP's Outgoing Chairman Myrtle Evers-Williams and NAACP President and CEO Kwesi Mume.

## 'Krippendorf's Tribe'



Penny Johnson

fame of the "Star Trek" franchise, all over the world. A guest appearance on "Star Trek: The Next Generation" in 1994 led to a recurring role in several episodes of "Star Trek: Deep Space Nine" in 1995-1998. On that show, Johnson plays a space freighter captain named Kasiya Sisko who also happens to be the love interest of the series' main character, Benjamin Sisko, played by Avery Brooks.

Despite her success in motion pictures and television, Johnson's first love is live theater. She runs the Los Angeles-based theatre group, Octo/Oasis Christian Theatre Company) backed by the Oasis Christian Center. The center recently purchased the old Four Star Theater, in

the city's Miracle Mile district, for services and as a home for Johnson's company's productions.

"There are 560 seats in the theater, and they're full every night," Johnson enthuses.

"In spite of our company's affiliation, we don't really do 'religious' plays," she states. "But we do prefer stories that support biblical principles and have a very sound moral basis."

Given the many creative hats Johnson wears, does she foresee ever giving up acting for directing, producing and writing instead?

"Absolutely not. Acting isn't something you want to do," she explains. "If you're like me, it's something you have to do."

## News Briefs

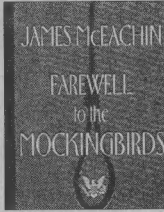
### A celebration of 'Amistad'



**NEW YORK**—The publication of Amistad "Give Us Free" — A Celebration Of The Film By Steven Spielberg commemorates the creation of the critically acclaimed movie nominated for four Academy Awards and four Golden Globe awards. This exceptional volume with essays by Steven Spielberg, Debbie Allen, and Maya Angelou, written especially for this book, chronicles the filmmakers' efforts to re-create the fight for freedom of 53 Africans who were captured as slaves and who rebelled on the Amistad.

### Farewell to the Mockingbirds

by James McEachin



James McEachin whose writing has been described as Faulkneresque, stunning and colorful, presents a story which is heart-rendering, provocative and unforgettable. The veteran author and actor has now completed a second novel to follow the success of his highly acclaimed debut with Tell Me A Tale.

This new and riveting work entitled Farewell To The Mockingbirds takes the reader back to a time not widely acknowledged in American history, when the U.S. Army didn't know what to do with the 10,000 black soldiers serving the nation at the start of World War I. This expansive and energetic novel tells the story of a battalion of troops from the celebrated King Company of the 24th U.S. Infantry Regiment (Colored) who were assigned to Houston, Texas which led to an insurrection. Nineteen whites were killed and 10 black soldiers—mockingbirds, as they were termed by the prosecution—were charged with mutiny and murder.



by Alexandra R. Frazier



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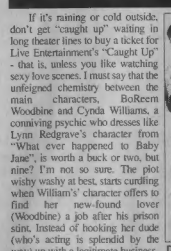
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## Pop Du Jour



Dru Hill

If it's raining or cold outside, don't get "caught up" waiting in long theater lines to buy a ticket for Live Entertainment's "Caught Up" — that is, unless you like watching sexy love scenes. I must say that the unbridled chemistry between the main characters, Bokeem Woodbine and Cyndia Williams, a conniving psychic who dresses like Lynn Redgrave's character in "What ever happened to Baby Jane", is worth a buck or two, but none? I'm not so sure. The plot winds weedy at best, starts curdling when William's character offers to find her new-found lover (Woodbine) a job after his prison stint, instead of hooking her dude (who's acting is splendid by the way) up with a legitimate business-



Dru Hill

man, Nasty Nessa introduces him to Billy Grimm (Joseph Lindsey), who like the grim reaper, is in the business of dealing with dead bodies! Oh well.

Ono projects that are gonna continue to blow up. Dru Hill, Jazz, Neko, Woody, and Siso, are sky rocketing in popularity. Everybody laughed at their jumpy up and down dance moves, thinking that they performed during Tell Me,

but guess who's choking on laughter now? The guys, are wildly successful now, but before they got signed to Island, they earned their little spending money at a Baltimore fudgery. They never made it to the judge mastery level, but they did perfect their soulful sound — a full yet not cluttered vocal style that nabbed the attention of Island Records' A & R

Executives. Thinking back to the days paid photo shoots, press days and live performances were murky mingles in four boys' bedazzled daydreams, Siso, the group's eldest moustache recalls, "We always knew that we would make it to this point, because we were always practicing. If you were from Baltimore, then you'd know who we were. You might not know our names, but you'd know us from being the guys who sang in the park."

Dru Hill Park is a place where first kisses were exchanged, where summer-long commitments were made and where hooky, on the regular, was being played. For short, those in the know refer to the park as Dru Hill, a must-visit landmark if you ever make it down to Baltimore. Capturing his favorite hangout spot's allure in words, Neko, the production ears of the group, explains "It's a great place. We grew up around that park and it's a special place to us. If you haven't made it down to our state then I can understand now you may not have heard about Dru Hill Park, but as a group, we're gonna make that park and our city famous."

By merely looking at these four fashion billboards, it would be easy to dismiss the quartet as just another celebrity band trying to mount their obscure city onto the musical map, but Dru Hill around his belly button, rarely wears a shirt in the summer, and follows his own fashion advice. "I don't copy nobody," he boasts. And tell your readers my hair was platinum before Dennis Rodman thought about dying his."

Finally, did you know that the ultimate Cat Woman herself, Eartha Kitt, who has been wooing audiences at the Carlyle for over a month, has signed on to play the wicked witch of the west in the traveling theatrical production of "The Wizard of Oz"? That should be interesting to see! It doesn't start for another five months, but I'll tell you how more details as they become available.



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## ADVERTISEMENT REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS FROM MBE FIRMS FOR DEMOLITION SERVICES

The Casino Redevelopment Authority (CRA) is seeking proposals from qualified contractors for work as required by CRA for the demolition of buildings owned by CRA in Atlantic City, NJ.

If awarded a contract your company/firm will be required to comply with the requirements of P.L. 1975, c. 127 (N.J.A.C. 17:27) "Law Against Discrimination in Public Contracts."

If the firm to which this contract is awarded is not already a Minority Business Enterprise (MBE) or a Women-Owned Business Enterprise (WBE), certified as such by the New Jersey Department of Commerce, then the contract will require a subcontractor set-aside for such an MBE or WBE. Set-aside goals, or good faith efforts as required in N.J.A.C. 17:14-4.3 (22A-104-4.3), must be met if the firm is not already an MBE or WBE. Applications and questions regarding eligibility as an MBE or WBE may be directed to the New Jersey Department of Commerce's Set-Aside and Certification Office, 20 West State Street, CN 635, Trenton, New Jersey 08646-0635, 609-984-9834.

A mandatory pre-bid conference will be held at 10:00 am on Friday, March 6, 1998 at CRA offices located at 1014 Atlantic Avenue, Atlantic City, NJ. Copies of the Request for Proposals will be distributed at the mandatory conference.

Proposals will be required to be received by the CRA by 4:00 p.m. on Monday, March 23, 1998. No late proposals will be accepted.

Questions are to be directed to:

Charles Emanuel  
Casino Redevelopment Authority  
1014 Atlantic Avenue  
Atlantic City, NJ 08401  
609-347-0200

## THE OLD BRIDGE TOWNSHIP HOUSING AUTHORITY (OBTHA) SEEKS REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS (RFP'S)

To provide comprehensive housing counseling to eligible households, seeking Old Bridge Township home purchases. Respondents provide group and individual services helping households become "mortgage ready" and eligible for OBTHA Down Payment or Settlement loans. Evaluation criteria include: Experience, Curriculum, References, and Professional Certifications. Completed RFP's (no faxes) due Friday, April 3, 1998 by 4:00 p.m. Call Marie Gattuso at 732-721-0300 ext. 6515 for a complete RFP application.

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## INVITATION FOR BIDS HOUSING AUTHORITY OF THE CITY OF NEWARK FOR XEROX LASER PRINTERS VARIOUS SIZES

RF# 98-012851  
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The Housing Authority of the City of Newark (NHA) will receive sealed bids for the following materials:

ON FRIDAY, MARCH 13, 1998 AT 10:00 A.M.  
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All bid packages shall clearly indicate the specific applicable bid number and will be addressed and received on the above dates by the Contracts Division, Housing Authority of the City of Newark, 27 Sussex Avenue, Newark, New Jersey 07102 at which time and place the bids will be publicly opened and read aloud.

Proposals for the above are available for pick up at the Contracts Division of the NHA at the said address. Telephone: (201) 430-2356.

Bid bonds and Performance Bonds are not required for these bids. Bidders are required to comply with the requirements of P.L. 1975 c.137 Affirmative Action Program.

The NHA reserves the right to reject any or all bids in the event that less than two (2) bids are received at the designated time of bid opening. The NHA reserves the right to reject any partial bids, and to award all or a portion of the award to one or more responsible bidders.

No bid seal will be withdrawn for a period of sixty (60) days subsequent to the opening of bids without the consent of the NHA.

HOUSING AUTHORITY OF THE CITY OF NEWARK

HAROLD LUCAS  
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

## REQUEST FOR PROPOSAL/ QUOTATION

Housing Authority of the Township of Woodbridge  
Licensed or Fully Authorized Insurance  
Companies

Notice is hereby given that sealed proposals will be received by the Housing Authority of the Township of Woodbridge for the following insurance policies for the policy period of 4/4/98 through 9/30/00:

1. Auto
2. Property of current Replacement Value and General Liability
3. Umbrella Liability

Specifications may be obtained at the Administration Office located at 10 Burns Lane, Woodbridge, New Jersey 07095 on weekdays between 9:00 AM and 4:00 PM for a \$15 non-refundable fee, payable by check or money order only.

Proposals must be submitted until 11 AM on March 23, 1998, and must be accompanied in a sealed envelope bearing the name and address of the proposer, clearly marked "Insurance Proposal", and addressed to Mr. Peter Ansara, Executive Director, 10 Burns Lane, Woodbridge, New Jersey 07095.

The services to be provided are regarded as professional services. As such, not only price but the professional ability, size of the proposer's organization, proximity to the Housing Authority and other similar factors may be taken into account in awarding the contract. herein. Qualifications of insurance companies to be used will also be subject to rating in A.M. Best rating of A- or better, but a rating of B+ will be considered. Proposals will be received from any agent, broker, or company licensed to do business in the State of New Jersey and having a fully staffed claims office within the State of New Jersey.

The Housing Authority of the Township of Woodbridge reserves the right to reject any or all proposals, or any part thereof, for any cause whatsoever. No proposal shall be deemed accepted or a contract award until adoption of a resolution to that effect by the Board of Commissioners of the Housing Authority. Proceeded policy is subject to pre-notice cancellation until approved by the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development.

Peter J. Ansara  
Executive Director

## REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS

The Housing Authority of the Town of Secaucus, New Jersey will receive proposals for a contract for testing, maintenance and inspection services on the alarm system at: Rocco Imperviduro Tower (HUD Project NUB32-002), 800 County Avenue, Secaucus, New Jersey.

Proposals will be received until 4:00 P.M., on Thursday, March 26th, 1998 at the offices of the Housing Authority of the Town of Secaucus, 700 County Avenue, Secaucus, New Jersey. Proposal documents will be on the beginning Friday, March 26th, 1998 at the offices of the Housing Authority of the Town of Secaucus.

The building and the fire alarm equipment will be available for examination between the hours of 8:00 A.M. to 11:30 A.M. and 1:30 P.M. to 3:30 P.M. Monday through Friday. All parties interested in examining the equipment must contact the office prior to going to the building.

All persons submitting a proposal will be required to comply with all Equal Employment Opportunity requirements and pay not less than the prevailing wage rates as established by the U.S. Department of Labor.

The Housing Authority reserves the right to reject any and all proposals or to waive any informality in the proposal process.

No proposal will be withdrawn for a period of sixty (60) days subsequent to opening of the proposals without the consent of the Housing Authority of the Town of Secaucus.

HOUSING AUTHORITY OF THE TOWN OF SECAUCUS  
William F. Snyder  
Executive Director

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## SECOND ADVERTISEMENT

The Housing Authority of the City of Salem is hereby giving notice that it will accept sealed bids for the purchase of a new 1998 Security Patrol Vehicle.

Specifications and Bid Proposal Forms are on file at the Housing Authority of the City of Salem Office, 205 Seventh Street, Salem, New Jersey and may be obtained commencing February 25, 1998.

Proposals must be received no later than March 12, 1998 by 10:00 a.m. at the Housing Authority of the City of Salem Office at 205 Seventh Street, Salem, New Jersey 08079 at which time they will be opened and publicly read aloud. The Housing Authority of the City of Salem reserves the right to reject any and all proposals or to waive any informality in the proposal.

Bids must be enclosed in sealed envelopes bearing the name and address of the Bidder and the name of the security car marked "Proposal for Purchase of one Security Patrol Vehicle". Attention: Ruth O. Gross, Executive Director.

\$45.50

## LEGAL ADVERTISEMENT

## REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS

The Housing Authority of the Town of Secaucus, New Jersey will accept proposals for upgrading its existing computer system located at the Authority's central office, 700 County Avenue, Secaucus, New Jersey. All services must comply with federal, state, local laws and be in accordance with the existing rules, orders, directives, regulations and handbooks promulgated by the United States Department of Housing and Urban Development and the State of New Jersey.

The services that are requested will be as follows:

1. Upgrade the Authority's existing computer system by installing the hardware and software contained in the "Proposal Submission Form";
2. Ensure that all equipment and software are properly functioning at the completion of the work, including the Local Area Network (LAN);
3. Protect the Authority's existing programs and data during the installation of software;
4. Transfer all programs, data and other information to ensure that the Authority's existing programs function properly within the context of the scope of the new operating system (Windows 95);

5. Include all items that are necessary to ensure that the new system operates effectively and efficiently in accordance with the manufacturer's recommendations;

6. All labor, materials and equipment necessary for upgrading the Authority's existing PCs and LAN shall be included within the scope of the price submitted by the vendor (no extras);

7. Complete all work within 5 working days;

8. Make recommendations for enhancing the system's efficiency;

9. Provide standard industry accepted manufacturer warranties on all hardware and software.

Qualifications:

1. Must have a minimum of 5 years experience in comparable work of this size and magnitude;
2. Must be approved by the United States Department of Housing and Urban Development to provide their services;
3. Must be approved by the manufacturer of the hardware and software being utilized (if applicable);

Proposal Submission:

All persons interested in submitting a proposal for upgrading the Housing Authority's computer system should submit a proposal based upon a lump sum. The following documents should be submitted with the proposal:

1. Completed "Proposal Submission Form";
2. A Certificate of Insurance;
3. Copies of any applicable licenses for installing the hardware and software;
4. A listing of a minimum of ten (10) references for comparable projects.

Proposals shall be delivered to the Housing Authority of the Town of Secaucus, 700 County Avenue, Secaucus, New Jersey on or before March 26th, 1998 by 4:00 p.m. Bidders should submit two (2) copies of their proposal in a sealed envelope labeled "Proposal or Computer Upgrade". The proposal will be opened at the March 26th meeting of the Board of Commissioners.

WILLIAM F. SNYDER  
Executive Director



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| <h3>HELP WANTED</h3> <h4>COMMUNITY SERVICE OFFICER (CSO)</h4> <p>The Township of Montclair, an AAEEO Employer, is now accepting applications for interested, gird, funded positions. The Community Service Officer staffs the front end reception area of the Police Department and handles dispatching of Police, Fire, Emergency Medical Services, and other requests. Responsibilities for monitoring the callbook and performing opening and closing duties and performing emergency as needed. Performance must be excellent. The successful candidate must possess a High School diploma and a GED. Computer background and the ability to work under stressful conditions and be able to type at least 35 wpm. In addition, he/she must have a valid driver's license and have excellent interpersonal and writing skills. This position also requires the ability to work night work including weekends and holidays. The successful candidate will also be required to successfully complete a Police background check, a written exam, psychological exam and a medical examination which includes a drug test. Salary \$27,000. April 1 person. Township of Montclair, Human Resources Department, 205 Claremont Avenue, Montclair NJ 07040. No applications will be accepted after March 27, 1998.</p> | <h3>HELP WANTED</h3> <h4>INTERNS</h4> <p>Full-time students with a 2.5 G.P.A. and excellent communications skills who are interested in developing work experience and their resumes to City News. Attn: Jan Johnson, P.O. Box 191, Plainfield, NJ 07061 or fax your resume to 908-753-1036. You will have the opportunity to learn hands-on experience in Microsoft Word, Adobe Photoshop, and 3.5 Commodore, word processing, scanning, filing, sorting, making phone calls. Some internships are paid.</p> <p>PROOFREADER</p> <p>Proofreaders are invited to submit your resume to Jan Johnson at City News, P.O. Box 191, Plainfield, NJ 07061. Experience is required.</p> <p>FREELANCE WRITERS</p> <p>Freelance writers are needed to cover <b>newsworthy material</b>. Send your resume to City News, Attn: Geraldine, P.O. Box 191, Plainfield, NJ 07061. Experience required. Must have your own transportation.</p> | <h3>HELP WANTED</h3> <h4>HELP WANTED:</h4> <p>Earn up to \$500 per week assembling products at home. No experience. U/P: 100-646-1700. NJ-6155.</p> <h4>HELP WANTED</h4> <p>Distributing phone cards. No experience necessary. For more information send a self-addressed stamped envelope to: Prisma Communications, P.O. Box 884055, Miami, FL 33159-1350</p> <h4>PT CUSTOMER SERVICE REPRESENTATIVE</h4> <p>Summit Bank</p> <p>Summit Bank offers attractive salaries, comprehensive benefits, and a fun and secure work environment. Call Summit Bank about the opportunity to CLARIC, have a career office and enjoy a lifestyle.</p> <p>(973) 736-9898<br/>VOICE BOX #4400</p> | <h3>HELP WANTED</h3> <h4>**Graphic Designer**</h4> <p>Must know QuarkXpress and Photoshop on PC or MAC platforms and have two years experience working with Newspaper layout.</p> <p>City News Personnel<br/>PO Box 1774, Plainfield, NJ 07060</p> <h4>Certified Home Health Aides</h4> <p>In Plainfield area for established non-profit home health agency. Must be at least 20 hrs/wk. Benefits avail. EOE. Call 908-339-3313.</p> | <h3>FOR SALE</h3> <h4>1994 HONDA CIVIC EX 5-SPEED FULLY LOADED SUNROOF CHERRY RED</h4> <p>Send resume to:<br/>City News Personnel<br/>PO Box 1774, Plainfield, NJ 07060</p> <h4>*PHOTOGRAPHER*</h4> <p>Freelance photographers wanted to cover events throughout New Jersey. Reimbursement for travel expenses. Must be responsible. Development not necessary. We supply film. Willing to work with new photographers. Send resume and portfolio work to:<br/>City News Personnel<br/>PO Box 1774, Plainfield, NJ 07060</p> <h4>Teacher, educator wanted</h4> <p>To write and edit a 4-page, monthly National Teacher's Guide. At least two years of teaching experience necessary, preferably grades 6 and up. Send resume to: Y Teacher's Guide, P.O. Box 191, Plainfield, NJ 07060</p> |
| <h3>SOCIAL WORKER</h3> <p>The Woodbridge Housing Authority is seeking candidates with MBE (Minority Business Enterprise) a two year, grant funded position to oversee a low income family self-sufficiency program. Duties include case management, monitor families, ensure service provision, provide linkage to supportive services, and develop self-sufficiency. Requirements include MSW degree, 2 to 3 years case management experience with low income populations. Send resume by March 27, 1998 to Peter J. Ansara, Executive Director, Woodbridge Housing Authority, 10 Burns Lane, Woodbridge, NJ 07095. Will be an Equal Opportunity Employer/AA.</p>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                 | <h3>PLACE YOUR CLASSIFIED AD HERE DON'T DELAY CALL TODAY!!! 908-754-3400</h3>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                 |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                      |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                      | <h3>HELP WANTED</h3> <p>FRISCAYIA \$699 1 BEDROOM 11W \$915 2 BORN TOWN-HOUSE PLEASANT VIEW GARDENS 28 CARLTON AVE. OPEN DATES 9:30-5:00 732-968-6348 Includes heat, H.W. Gas, AC. Free Show Club for new residents. Equal Housing Opportunity</p>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                         |

# Local Briefs

**Bill creating infectious disease center passes Senate**

**TRENTON**—The Senate today approved Senator Ronald L. Rice's bill to help fund a major infectious diseases research complex at University Heights Science Park in Newark.

"This state allocation will help to make the dream of having a major Science Park in Newark a reality," said Senator Rice. D-Essex, after the Senate approved his bill, S-449, by 33-5. New Jersey leads the nation or finishes near the top in many categories that we should not—AIDS/HIV, tuberculosis, infant mortality. This major science complex will help to break the scourge of infectious diseases and find new cures for these diseases right in Newark."

At the center of the 50-acre, Central Ward complex: the Public Health Research Institute, a 55-year-old, internationally renowned biomedical research institute based on New York City that will move to Science Park.

**Concast Provides Grants to local libraries in computer technology**

**UNION**—Concast, New Jersey's leading provider of cable television services, recently donated more than \$2,200 to 16 public libraries throughout the state for the purchase of new computer hardware or software. The donations were the result of Concast's participation in the National Cable Television Association's (NCTA) program of installation revenue from new customer connections was earmarked to support technology for libraries.

Concast Area Vice President Joseph J. Fischer presented \$250 checks each to representatives from the Plainfield Public Library, South Plainfield Public Library and North Plainfield Public Library. The libraries can use the grant as they see fit to either develop or support computer technology.

**Nia Gill sponsors tax checkoff for shelter funding**

**TRENTON**—Domestic-violence shelters, rape crisis centers and victim counseling programs would be assured of a steady revenue flow from a new voluntary income tax checkoff under legislation approved by the Assembly and Public Safety Committee.

Assembly Minority Whip N. H. Gill (D-Essex) and Assembly Deputy Minority Leader Neil M. Cohen (D-Union) are sponsors of the measure (A-10) which will allow taxpayers who wish to alleviate the funding problems domestic-violence shelter and rape crisis centers are now enduring as a result of Governor Christie Whitman's fiscal policies.

"We need to enhance — not decrease — the funding flow for domestic violence programs," said Gill. "This bill would provide a new and voluntary revenue source that would be off-limits to political meddling." The Gill-Cohen bill would provide a checkoff on the state's gross income tax returns so taxpayers can make voluntary contributions to fund services for crime victims of sexual assault and domestic violence.

The money from the checkoff would be channeled into the state's Victim and Witness Advocacy Fund, which provides grants to local anti-crime programs and not-for-profit organizations that service battered women and rape victims. The services include shelter, food, clothing, information, counseling, and financial support.

**New officers for New Jersey's 100 Black Women**

**NEWARK**—The National Coalition of 100 Black Women, New Jersey Chapter, will install officers on March 12 at 7 p.m. at Schering-Plough Corporation, Kenilworth, New Jersey.

The keynote speaker is The Honorable Anna Hooks, New Jersey Secretary of State.

The National Coalition of 100 Black Women has been established a Leadership Forum for black women from all geo-political and socio-economic groups, whose mission is to develop, initiate and implement plans to provide an equal playing field for African-American women.

1998-99 Officers are: President, Marion Rhin Fowler; Vice President, Pamela L. Boswell; Brenda J. Murphy and Barbara James; Secretary, C. Jeanette Goodson; Treasurer, Martha Perry-Gibbons; Membership, Gussie Barnes; and Myrtle Smith Counts, Public Relations.

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# High School students work on the winning robot

**EAST HANOVER AND PLAINFIELD** — For more than a month, the talents and imaginations of Plainfield High School students and staff members from Novartis Pharmaceuticals Corporation have been paired in a common goal—to create an award-winning robot for the 7th Annual Team FIRST robotics competition. The competition will take place at Rutgers University from March 19-21.

Team FIRST (For Inspiration and Recognition of Science and Technology) is a national engineering contest, which joins high school students with representatives from the community, industry, and higher education. Together they form teams that brainstorm, design, and construct robots for entry into an exciting regional and, later, a national competition. A secondary part of the contest includes the production of a video, which documents the collaboration from start to finish. The goal of these partnerships is to introduce students to a hands-on look at the engineering and communications professions, while sharing resources and talent, and fostering a spirit of cooperation.

As the corporate partner with Plainfield High School, Novartis Pharmaceuticals Corporation is providing both funding and professional assistance to the team. Staff members from the company's Engineering and Facilities Management Department, as well as its Audio Visual Communications area, have voluntarily shared their expertise and time.

A group of us have been going to the high school and working with the students twice a week for the last six weeks," states Ted Sprosser, Associate Director of Utility Services at Novartis Pharmaceuticals. "Students gain the experience of participating as a member of a project engineering team. And it's been a positive experience for the Novartis volunteers to see the enthusiasm, creativity, and potential of these young minds."

To demonstrate the important connection between classroom lessons and



At left, Paul Butler, CADD (Computer Assisted Drafting and Design) Operator at Novartis Pharmaceuticals Corporation, demonstrates the system to several members of Plainfield High Schools FIRST Team, standing, left to right, India Watkins, junior; Michal Garfinkel, sophomore; and Jauna Inoa, senior.

real world applications, Plainfield's FIRST Team recently visited Novartis' East Hanover site to tour its CADD (Computer Assisted Drafting and Design) system, followed by a tour of the audio visual area, to see how videos are produced and edited.

Dr. Gail Van Ekeren, Physics Teacher, and Matt Zullo, science teacher, are coordinating Plainfield High School's participation. "This visit really exemplified the overall goals of the FIRST program," commented Van Ekeren. "While we encourage our students every day to do their best, and to consider where their interests might take them, this visit provided hands-on experience. It gave the students a greater sense of ownership of their own goals, a clearer picture of some interesting career possibilities, and an exposure to quality."

Jauna Inoa, a senior at Plainfield High School and a member of the FIRST team, agreed. "I felt like we were a family, working side by side with the engineers to build the robot. And,



visiting Novartis helped me a great deal in pursuing engineering as a career. It made it clear for me."

The FIRST competition was founded in 1989 as a national nonprofit organization by Dean Kamen, president of DEKA Research and Development Corporation of Manchester, New Hampshire, to interest and inspire students to study science and math. FIRST



supplies each team with a starter kit containing necessary basic components along with a set of rules governing the design and construction of the robots. The competition takes the form of a new game each year, devised by Kamen and his team of volunteer advisers. This year's game involves the collection and positioning of 20' diameter air-inflated rubber balls within a 3' playing field.

## Amagical 'Evening of Elegance'

**PRINCETON**—The Central Jersey Alumnae Chapter of Delta Sigma Theta Sorority, Inc. will be having their biannual black tie Dinner and Dance, sponsored by Kamen and the Central Jersey Alumnae Chapter Scholarship Fund. This event will take place on Saturday, April 11, at the Princeton Marriott Forestal Village, Route One South, Princeton. There will be a reception at 7 p.m. with din-

ner being served at 8 p.m. The Brothers 2+2 Band will provide entertainment. The tickets cost is \$65 per person.

Delta Sigma Theta Sorority, Inc. founded in 1913 at Howard University in Washington, D.C., is a private, non-profit, public service organization with over 800 chapters in the U.S. and abroad. For ticket information call 908-756-0727, Box 85.

## NJIT to serve as site for ACE-Net investor source

**NEWARK**—The U.S. Small Business Administration (SBA) has selected NJIT's Enterprise Development Center to serve as one of only eight regional sites in the country to administer the Angel Capital Electronic Network (ACE-Net), a nationwide Internet-based listing service that provides information to investors on small, dynamic, growing businesses seeking \$250,000 to \$5 million in equity financing.

"We are looking forward to having NJIT join ACE-Net as a regional operator," said Fred Tarpley, a chief economist at SBA. Sponsored by SBA's Office of Advocacy, ACE-Net is able to organize and expand information on firms seeking equity financing. The ACE-Net project, announced

recently by President Clinton in October, 1996, was recommended by delegates to the 1995 White House Conference on Small Business to improve the capital formation and regulatory climate for small companies.

Many small businesses in the United States that can raise up to \$250,000 through family, friends and founders have difficulty finding capital in the new round of financing. Traditionally, the venture capital industry could provide additional financing.

ACE-Net solves this problem by allowing angel investors — typically wealthy individuals with significant business experience — to view the securities offerings of small growing companies via the Internet.

## Westfield paying homage to Robeson centennial



The Paul Robeson Centennial Committee of Westfield consists of, standing in photo from left, Westfield City Councilman Donnell Carr, Giles Wright, Westfield Mayor, and Reverend Leon Randall, St. Luke's A.M.E. Zion Church in Westfield, seated.

**WESTFIELD**—A program of events celebrating the 100th anniversary of Paul Robeson's birth has been announced by a citizens' committee in Westfield.

Robeson, who won international renown as a performing artist and human-rights activist, spent three of his early years—1907 to 1910—in Westfield. His father was pastor of St. Luke's African Methodist Episcopal Zion Church and was the catalyst in a building campaign that gave the congregation its first permanent house of worship.

"We are privileged to have this connection with one of the great Americans of the age," said the Rev. Leon Randall, the church's current minister and co-chairman of the Paul Robeson Centennial Committee. "Paul Robeson was a great statesman, a true All-American who had roots in our own community, however brief, and we want to lift our voice in the public domain that is being paid to him this year."

The celebration will begin formally on Thursday, April 5, and conclude on Thursday, April 9, the date of Robeson's birth, in Princeton. In 1898, his grandfather, Susan Robeson, will be the guest of honor at a luncheon on April 9 at the Presbyterian Church. Ms. Robeson, who lived in Minneapolis, Minn., is the author of "The Whole World in His Hands," a pictorial biography of her grandfather published in 1981, five years after his death in Philadelphia.

There will be an opening Paul Robeson Centennial Service at St. Luke's Church on April 5, beginning at 8 p.m. The principal speaker will be the Rev. J. C. Hoggard, retired Bishop of the African Methodist Episcopal Zion Church. His father was one of a long line of ministers at St. Luke's after the Rev. William Drew Robeson and family moved on to Somerville in 1910.

Scheduled to participate in the April 5 service, which will be followed by a reception, are Westfield Mayor Thomas C. Jantzen, former Town Councilman Donnell Carr, who is co-chairman with Mr. Randall of the centennial committee; schools Superintendent William Foley; and other

local dignitaries. Representing the state will be Giles R. Wright, director of the Afro-American History Program for the New Jersey Historical Commission, who is helping to guide the local celebration as well as programs elsewhere. The centennial will be marked in Princeton, Somerville, New Brunswick, Newark and other locations.

Robeson biographer and longtime associate Lloyd L. Brown will speak at the Westfield Memorial Library on the evening of Wednesday, April 8. He is the author of "The Young Paul Robeson: On My Journey Now," a biography published last year, and "Iron City," a novel.

Brown, 85, lives in New York City and was a journalist and union organizer many years ago. His speech is scheduled for 8 p.m., and he will speak at the following evening, on April 9, at Raritan Valley Community College in Branchburg. He will also appear in Princeton, and Ms. Robeson will participate in programs in Princeton and Somerville.

Robeson attended the old Washington School at Elm and Orchard streets and as a 12-year-old played in some baseball games with the high school team, exhibiting early athletic talent that would win him All-American ranking in football at Rutgers College. Research by the centennial committee has located the site where the Robsons lived at the south side of Waterson Street, formerly known as Spring Street, where it intersects with Railway Avenue.

Mayor Jantzen, speaking at a Martin Luther King celebration in February, said he was heartened to learn that the place where Robeson lived in the public domain and he indicated that some effort might be made to officially mark the site.

Mr. Carr said the centennial celebration should be instructive for a new generation, especially in the struggle for civil rights and the movement that came to be known as "Black Pride."

"People like Dr. King and other leaders acknowledged Paul Robeson's great contribution in instilling pride in African-American achievement, and we hope to convey this sense of history to our young people," Mr. Carr said.

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## United Way's mobile computer lab pilot project is underway

**ELIZABETH**—United Way, in collaboration with Union County College, the County of Union and IBM Corporation recently launched its Mobile Computer Lab Pilot for Adult and Technological Literacy. The current environment demands that education and training be shorter, more intensive, convenient and directly related to available jobs. This initiative was designed to enhance self-sufficiency and improve the quality of life for Union County constituents.

Students will gather at four United Way agency training sites to learn office based computer programs to increase their marketability in the work place. The Mobile Computer Lab consists of seven IBM ThinkPad 7500 computers which will circulate in and out of the training locations. The two-week pilot course, taught by an instructor from Union County College, is offering an Introduction to Windows and Word for windows for adults, and for children, an Introduction to Windows and Kidswords. The computers are equipped with adult basic education and GED preparation instructional software for the student's use while the training is at the site. An additional stationary computer will be left at the site for follow-up practice.

I am thankful to Union County College, the County of Union and IBM Corporation for collaborating with us to make this program a reality," said Dennis Poller, President of the Board of United Way of the Tri-State area. "When IBM sent a Request for Proposal for education and technological literacy, they received numerous requests from United Way all over the Tri-State area. The people at IBM felt, as I do, that this program is much too important to ignore. That is why our Mobile Computer Lab project was one of only six grants ultimately awarded."

Over the course of a one-year period, the pilot program will provide adult and computer literacy instruction to a minimum of 112 adults and children at four United Way agency locations: YWCA of Eastern Union County, YMCA of Eastern Union County and the Urban League of Union County in Elizabeth and Interfaith Council for the Homeless of Union County in Plainfield.

"We are very excited and happy to be a part of United Way project with three other agencies," said Ana Vega, Director of Shelter Services of the YWCA of Eastern Union County. "We want to train our clients with skills that are marketable and enable them to earn a level of income that will allow them to support themselves and their children."

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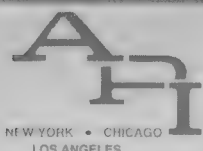
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| 456 | 24,456 | 45,269 | 35,256 | 4    |
| 369 | 45,28  | 86,2   | 52,365 | 62   |
| 156 | 2,056  | 35,624 | 63,25  | 12.8 |

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## PUBLICLY-TRADED BLACK-OWNED AND/OR MANAGED COMPANIES

|                                                                                                                                                                                           |                                                                                                                                                                                               |                                                                                                                                                                                                       |                                                                                                                                                             |                                                                                                                                                                                                             |
|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <b>BET Holdings Inc. - CLA</b><br>One BET Plaza<br>1900 W Place NE<br>Washington, DC 20018-1211<br>Robert L. Johnson,<br>Chairman/CEO<br>Debra L. Lee, President/COO<br>(BTV)             | <b>Envirotest Systems Corp.</b><br>246 Sobrante Way<br>Sunnyvale, CA 94086<br>Chester C. Davenport, Chairman<br>F. Robert Miller, President/CEO<br>Richard P. Webb, Exec. VP/COO<br>(ENR)     | <b>United American Healthcare</b><br>1155 Brewer Park Boulevard<br>Suite 200<br>Detroit, MI<br>William C. Brooks, Chairman<br>Ronald R. Dobbins, President/COO<br>Julius V. Combs, M.D., CEO<br>(UAH) | <b>BAOA Inc.</b><br>1011 Camino Del Rio South<br>Suite 520<br>San Diego, CA 92108<br>Louis Corbo, Chairman/CEO<br>(BAOA)                                    | <b>Caraco Pharmaceutical Labs, Inc.</b><br>1150 Elijah McCoy Drive<br>Detroit, MI 48202<br>Narendra Borkar, President/CEO/COO<br>C. Arnold Curry M.D., Chairman EMRT/<br>Chief Scientific Advisor<br>(CARA) |
| <b>Granite Broadcasting Corp.</b><br>767 Third Avenue<br>New York, NY 10017<br>W. Don Cornwell,<br>Chairman/CEO<br>Stuart J. Beck, President/Secretary<br>Robert E. Selwyn, COO<br>(GBTV) | <b>American Shared Hospital<br/>Services</b><br>4 Embarcadero Center<br>Suite 3620<br>San Francisco, CA 94111<br>Ernest A. Bates, M.D., Acting COO/<br>Acting President/Chairman/CEO<br>(AMS) | <b>Carver Bancorp, Inc.</b><br>75 West 125th St<br>New York, NY 10027<br>David R. Jones, Chairman<br>Thomas L. Clark Jr., President/CEO<br>(CNY)                                                      | <b>Carson Inc.</b><br>64 Ross Road<br>Savannah Industrial Park<br>Savannah, GA 31405<br>Leroy Keith, Chairman/CEO<br>Joyce M. Roche, President/COO<br>(CIC) | <b>Broadway Financial Corporation</b><br>4835 West Venice Blvd.<br>Los Angeles, CA 90019<br>Elbert T. Hudson, Chairman<br>Paul C. Hudson<br>(BYFC)                                                          |





|     |        |        |        |    |
|-----|--------|--------|--------|----|
| 456 | 24,456 | 45,269 | 35,256 | 42 |
| 369 | 45,288 | 86,000 | 52,365 | 62 |
| 56  | 2,556  | 35,624 | 63,255 | 12 |

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## BLOOMBERG & AMALGAMATED JOIN FORCES



An integral part of this partnering agreement will be the creation by Bloomberg of a new Bloomberg news category, NI DIVERSITY, which will feature on Bloomberg terminals news about African-Americans in business, publicly-traded stocks and mutual funds. Also included will be the new Bloomberg/API Index, which replaces the Bloomberg Color of Money Index, which tracks the performance of the publicly-traded companies that are owned and operated by African-Americans.



on the Amalgamated Publishers/Bloomberg Financial News page of select newspapers.

As so eloquently stated by API Chairman, Ernie Pitt, "This association between Bloomberg, API and the Black press represents a new vision. It represents the vision of the new millennium. Providing information on the nation's Black-owned, publicly-held companies and other information that is hard to find, is now available in our communities and in our newspapers."

**O**n October 22, 1997, a historic partnership was launched between Amalgamated Publishers, Inc. (API) and Bloomberg Financial Markets Commodities News (Bloomberg). This partnership is historic in that it is the first arrangement between a major business information company to provide general news and analytical information on African-American companies, stocks and mutual funds. API, the national advertising representative for over 200 African-American owned newspapers will provide financial information, graphs and charts on Black publicly-traded stocks and mutual funds performance. This information will be provided through a direct terminal hook-up between API and Bloomberg. Initially, 55 African-American newspapers throughout the country will feature Bloomberg data.

According to Michael Bloomberg, Bloomberg's founder and CEO "there's wealth out there (Black consumer market) and we see an underserved market." Bloomberg further states, he wants the community of African-American investors to know the Bloomberg name, buy its personal finance magazine, watch the television station and listen to Bloomberg radio, "this is not a philanthropic venture, you have to cover all consumers to be taken seriously."

Amalgamated Publishers is a 38 year old African-American company, which represents the finest African-American newspapers in the country. The company places advertising and promotes the advertising and marketing benefits of using African-American newspapers.

Bloomberg Financial Markets is one of the fastest growing information companies in the world, with over 500 reporters in 75 news bureaus throughout the world. Their news information is distributed to corporations, newspapers, magazines, television stations and radio stations. The Bloomberg Terminal, their core product called "The Bloomberg," is an interactive terminal which delivers news and information to over 75,000 customers worldwide, including API. API newspapers will be part of the over 850 newspapers worldwide that reprint Bloomberg news stories every day in their business sections as "Bloomberg Business News." These stories will now be featured



Michael House, President API, Burton Waddy, Bloomberg Financial and Ernie Pitt, Chairman/CEO of Amalgamated Publishers, Inc., at announcement reception

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## Expanding The Marketplace:

### Inclusion The Key To Economic Growth

**T**he Rainbow/Push Coalition's Wall Street Project, launched a year ago, on the birthday of Martin Luther King, Jr., was celebrated in a substantive manner befitting the memory of Dr. King. The theme of the conference was "Expanding the Marketplace: Inclusion the Key to Economic Growth." Jesse Jackson, president of the Rainbow/Push Coalition stated "The goal of the Wall Street Project is to even the playing field, expand the marketplace, and to make the realization of life, liberty and the pursuit of happiness inclusive to all of America's citizens."

Arthur Levitt, Chairman of the U.S. Securities and Exchange Commission, added value to Reverend's Jackson's remarks with the S.E.C.'s perspective on these issues. Levitt spoke of new initiatives that would be a framework to elicit even more ideas and offer direction for future actions. A summation of those issues are: First: Intensify economic education on the secondary-school level, especially in economically hard-pressed areas. Second: Broaden outreach to students on the undergrad-

uate level — seeking partnerships with such groups as the NAACP, the Urban League, and the American Association of University Women. Third: Create an industry-university partnership at the graduate-school level to include not only financial majors but all students with the academic skills that fit the changing needs of a global industry that is driven by the Information Age. Fourth: Strengthen the focus on minority mid-career professionals who are seeking ways to refine their already seasoned skills. Fifth: Strengthen mentoring programs within the financial community to ensure a greater retention rate among members of minority groups. Sixth: Establish high-level panels to monitor the career development of minorities and women.

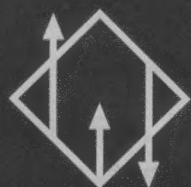
Chairman Levitt concluded with words of power, compassion and down-right common sense — "There's a compelling philosophical case for greater diversity. But let's also remember that there are strong business-minded reasons for diversity, too. In this case, as in so many others, good corporate citizenship is also sensible business practice."

— By Sandy Tate

## Stocks and Bonds investments by Black increased by 125%

According to a new study by Target Market News, Inc., African-American households are investing at a greater rate in stocks and bonds than white households. The market value of Blacks' investments increased by 125% between 1995 and 1996. Based on an analysis of data from the U.S. government and other sources, Target Market News found that in 1996, African-American households had an estimated \$7.2 billion invested in stocks and bonds, compared to \$3.2 billion for 1995. The earned income of African-Americans increased from \$324 billion to \$367 billion in that same time period. "These findings are significant because they dispel the notion that Blacks are not interested in investing their money," said Ken Smikle, president of Target Market News.

— Ken Smikle



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# Growing Number of Blacks on Wall Street

By: Tony Chapelle

**B**lack dollars are the margin of profit for several American industries, from cosmetics to Hollywood movies to athletic wear. However, in the stocks and bonds business, commonly referred to as Wall Street, our financial input has been indirect and therefore taken for granted — that's about to change.

African Americans as a group have not been big securities investors. According to Target Market News, a research firm in Chicago that follows Black consumer trends, in 1997 Blacks had invested \$28 million in financial assets. This figure does not include the billions invested by Blacks in their 401(k) retirement plans. Within the last three years, Wall Street has figured out that Black folks are the next big boom market — a market that will have \$500 billion in total income by the year 2000.

Many reputable brokerage firms are making an effort to pursue these customers — their success has been minimal. A more optimal strategy is to use Black financial professionals because of their storehouse of social knowl-

edge, social networks and social mobility about and within the Black communities. Securities Pro Newsletter, a New York based publication reporting the diversity climate on Wall Street, estimates that out of 90,000 brokers there are only 600 Black retail brokers in the business — this too will be changing.

Merrill Lynch employs the largest sales force, yet their figures are a dismal 220 Black brokers out of a total of 13,400. Prior to Smith Barney's merger with Salomon Brothers, less than one percent of their brokers were Black. A.G. Edwards has fewer than ten out of 5,900.

A broker/client relationship is one of extreme importance. Take care — shop around — get referrals, because you now have choices. Not only can the established brokerage houses serve you, there are thousands of independent Black financial planners, and investment consultants that can fulfill this fiduciary relationship. Among the thousands of mutual funds, there are approximately 19 African-American-owned and operated funds with more on the horizon. The next entry in this arena will be the Domestic

Emerging Markets Equity Fund managed by Black-owned Chapman Capital Management in Baltimore. This fund will invest your money in Black-owned companies. Another Black-managed company SBK Brooks Investments manages American Diversity Growth Trust, which is comprised of 28 stocks with a mix of Black corporate stocks and traditional corporate stocks that have an excellent record in hiring and promoting minorities. For foreign emerging markets, there's the Calvert New Africa Fund from Sloan Financial Group in Durham, N.C., which invests in African companies and governments. This fund is for slight risktakers who want to hedge their domestic investments by diversifying abroad.

With the burgeoning of Black professionals and Black-owned companies on Wall Street it is now possible to envision a continual growth of careers for minorities in the financial echelons of our society.

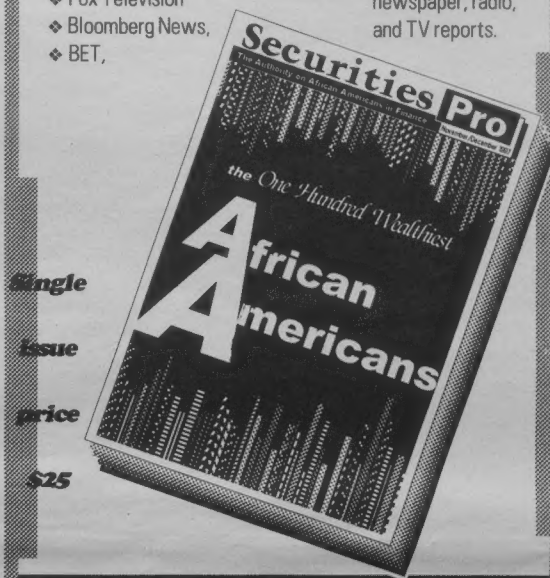
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